

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1-11 are amended and claims 12-20 are new. Claims 1-20 are pending for examination.

Entry of the above-amendment is respectfully requested prior to examination of the application. The above application corresponds to an application originally filed in Japanese. The above amendment revises the application as translated into English to be in a format more closely corresponding to that customarily employed in US patent practice, to eliminate multiple dependent claims, and add new claims corresponding to at least some of the subject matter of formerly multiple-dependent claims. None of the revisions in the amendment are intended to be more narrowing.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas J. Christensen
Registration No. 35,480

Customer No. 24113
Patterson, Thunte, Skaar & Christensen, P.A.
4800 IDS Center
80 South 8th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-2100
Telephone: (612) 349-3001